

Ladies Tea
May 16, 6:30pm
Bring a friend
Bring your favorite tea cup



Bethany Free Lutheran Church
451 34th St.
Astoria, OR 97103

We Are All Called To Be Prophets

If you were to describe a prophet, many would probably describe some man dressed in a rough goat skin, with open toed sandals, walking stick, and a long white beard. This might be a safe way to describe Elijah, Moses, or John the Baptist. But is that too narrow a view of what a prophet is? The Bible describes women fulfilling the role of prophet in both the Old and New Testament. The prophetess Anna is mentioned by name in Luke chapter 2 as well as a handful of other women in the Old Testament. While there were many more men, then women who functioned in the role of prophet, the office of prophet is clearly not a gender related issue. The prophet's role was to be a mouthpiece of God. They would often serve as God's messenger warning people when they were in error, or proclaiming a blessing that was to be given by God.

Oftentimes prophets are thought of as people who proclaim something that will happen. A sort of Biblical fortune teller. The female judge Deborah functioned in this manner when she told the commanding general Barak that the great victory the Israelites would celebrate over the death of their enemies would be brought ultimately by the hand of a woman. Without a doubt, there are plenty of examples of this type of prophet found in the Bible. And while there were definitely times when prophets would foretell the future like Deborah, another more common or typical role of a prophet was to simply proclaim truth.

I fulfill the role of prophet every time I get up in the pulpit and preach. After much study and preparation, I take God's Word and attempt to bring it to life by preaching or proclaiming it. While it normally isn't as flashy as announcing a coming plague sent by God, or of a great revival that God is doing, taking God's Word and proclaiming it is very much the fulfillment of the office of prophet. But is there an even broader, more general understanding of this office?

The beginning of Psalm 105 verse 1 says, "Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon

his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!" (ESV) The psalmist writes how all of us are called to proclaim among all people and all nations what God has done. **All** of us are called to be prophets in the sense that we are to announce to others the great and mighty deeds of our Lord. While we are not all called to be pastors, preachers, or teachers, **we are all called** to proclaim God's glory and truth to others.

"But pastor how do I do that," some might wonder? Talking to others about Jesus can be hard and even scary if you aren't used to doing it. What happens if they ask a question that I don't understand, what then? One of the easiest ways to make known God's deeds among all people is to simply share how God has been working in our own lives. In other words tell others not just your testimony, but literally what and how God has been working in your life.

Giving God glory, and proclaiming His powerful workings in our lives, and in the lives of others around us is not something just for church. We are called to be prophets and proclaim to all who will listen, who God is, and what He has done. A favorite hymn of mine is "Go Tell It on the Mountain." This is often sung at Christmas because the hymn speaks of Christ's birth. But I also see it as a reminder for us. The song is a call to action, to proclaim the great and mighty deeds of our Lord and King from every mountain top. You brothers and sisters in Christ are called to function as a prophet. Proclaim the truths of God to all who will listen, make known God's mighty deeds among the nations!

Pastor Rich Carr

Worship With Us

8:45 A.M. Glad Tidings Radio 1370 A.M.

9:30 A.M. Sunday School

11:00 A.M. Worship Services

Live Stream



We live stream our 11:00 A.M. Sunday worship services on Subsplash. If you prefer Facebook we are still there. Sunday sermons are also posted the same day on our YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/@bethanyfreelutheranastoria3012/featured>

You can find links to all of these on our website at www.bethanyfree.com

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Will be May 4th, 8:00 A.M. Cooking starts around 7:15am if you would like to help. We would love to have more men join us.



Deacons & Trustees Meeting

Tuesday May 7th at 5:30 P.M

Bethany Sewing Ministry



May 2, 16, 23 and 30 at 10:00 A.M. All sewing skills are welcome. A lunch is provided. We work on quilts that are mostly sent to AFLC Alaska Missions in Naknek, AK

Brown Bag Ministry

Every Tuesday, 1:30 P.M. Weekly our Brown Bag Ministry prepares brown bag lunches that are distributed in the community, we are always grateful for any volunteers.



Prayer & Praise Band

The Contemporary Prayer & Praise band meets Sunday evenings for practice at 5pm. Service is the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Opportunities to Serve

Check out the sign up sheets on the bulletin board! You can sign up to provide after church treats, flowers for the altar, greet and hand out bulletins before church or read the scriptures during church. Whatever you are comfortable with. Thank you!

WMF Meeting

Women's Missionary Federation will be meeting May 9th at 11 A.M. All Ladies Welcome! Bring your sack lunch, a dessert is provided.

Sunday School

May 19th will be the last day of Sunday school for the school year.

Women's Bible Study

Brenda Carr is hosting a women's Bible study and fellowship time on the 4th Tuesday of every month. It will be May 28th, 7pm at the Carr's home. All women are welcome.

Alaska Tote

Thank you to all who donated items, help pack the tote, and sewed our many quilts. Thank you to Todd Takalo for delivering the tote to Seattle so it can be put on a barge for its destination in Naknek, Alaska.



We believe this is the 10th year we have sent a tote with supplies, cookie ingredients, cups, napkins, quilts, coats, coffee, hot chocolate, many things to help the ministry of The Net. Over 500 quilts since we started.

Ladies Tea

The Ladies Dessert Tea will be Thursday, May 16, at 6:30pm. Melissa Reid will be our speaker.

Luke 8:48 Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."

Bring a special tea cup for yourself, but we will also have extra to share



LOOKING AHEAD

Graduation recognition Sunday will be June 2nd.